

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 05830 031226Z

47

ACTION SPM-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 SP-03 AID-20 HEW-08 SWF-02

IO-14 OIC-04 AGR-20 CEQ-02 EPA-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-15 SCI-06 EB-11 DRC-01 /210 W

----- 090359

R 031155Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4885

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMCONSUL BELEM BY POUCH

AMCONSUL PORTO ALEGRE BY POUCH

AMCONSUL RECIFE BY POUCH

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO BY POUCH

AMCONSUL SALVADOR BY POUCH

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO BY POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 5830

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, SPOP, UNWPC, BR

SUBJECT: WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE

1. BRAZILIAN DELEGATION WILL BE HEADED BY AMBASSADOR MIGUEL ALVARO OZORLIO DE ALMEIDA, SPECIAL ADVISOR TO FOREIGN MINISTER. DELEGATES WILL BE COUNSELOR MAURO MENDES DE AZEVEDO OF FOREIGN MINISTRY, AND DOCTOR ISAAC KERSTENETSKI, PRESIDENT OF BRAZILIAN INSTITUTE OF GEOGRAPHY AND STATISTICS (IBGE). ADVISORS WILL BE SECRETARY PEDRO MOTTA PINTO GOELHO OF FOREIGN MINISTRY, AND PROFESSOR TEODORO ONIGA OF NATIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE.

2. OZORIO, PEDRO MOTTA, AND ONIGA ARE ALL KNOWN TO U.S. OFFICIALS THROUGH PREVIOUS POPULATION MEETINGS. OZORIO IN PARTICULAR HAS BECOME NOTORIOUS FOR HIS OUT-SPOKEN DEFENSE OF REACTIONARY VIEWS ON POPULATION MATTERS, AND
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 BRASIL 05830 031226Z

WE EXPECT HIM TO BE IN EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF DELEGATION.

AZEVEDO WORKS IN OZORIO'S OFFICE. AS FAR AS WE KNOW, KERSTENETCKI'S PRINCIPAL INTEREST IN THIS AREA IS DEMOGRAPHY, AND WE TAKE HIS PRESENCE ON THE DELEGATION TO REFLECT GOB INTEREST IN THIS ASPECT.

3. INTER-MINISTERIAL POLICY PAPER ON POPULATION WAS RECENTLY SENT TO PRESIDENT GEISEL FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL: HE HAS NOT YET ACTED ON IT. IN THE MEANTIME, AN IGBE-SPONSORED SYMPOSIUM ON DEMOGRAPHY HAS BEGUN IN RIO, AND OZORIO'S REMARKS TO THE GROUP SUGGESTED NO ALTERATION IN BRAZIL'S STANCE: AS BEFORE, OZORIO STRONGLY DEFENDED EACH NATION'S RIGHT TO DETERMINE ITS OWN POPULATION POLICY FREE FROM OUTSIDE INFLUENCE, BITTERLY CRITICIZED "ALARMISTS" WHO INSIST THAT WORLD POPULATION MUST BE LIMITED, AND ASSERTED THAT BRAZIL HAS "ALMOST INFINITE" POSSIBILITIES FOR INCREASING FOOD PRODUCTION. ADDED OZORIO: "THE UNDERDEVELOPED WORLD CANNOT PAY THE BILL FOR THE DAMAGES CAUSED BY OTHERS, NOR CAN IT ACCEPT THAT A SUDDEN ECOLOGICAL CONCERN--WHICH DID NOT BLOCK THE RAPID PRIOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES-- SHOULD HINDER OR IMPEDE ITS OWN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS." SUBSTANTIAL COMMENT IN THE PRESS, SOME OF IT APPARENTLY BASED ON LEAKS, HAS ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THE PAPER DOES NOT CALL FOR ANY CHANGE IN BRAZIL'S POLICY.

4. FOR WHAT IT MAY BE WORTH, HOWEVER,--AND WE ARE SKEPTICAL--IN RECENT CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, PEDRO MOTTA HINTED THAT IF POPULATION POLICY PAPER NOT APPROVED BY PRESIDENT PRIOR TO BUCHAREST MEETING, BRAZILIAN ACTION THERE WOULD CONFORM TO PREVIOUS LINE, BUT THAT APPROVAL OF PAPER WOULD RESULT IN MODIFICATIONS (HE DECLINED TO INDICATE WHAT THEY MIGHT BE). INTERESTINGLY, THE JORNAL DO BRASIL, WHICH AT TIMES REFLECTS GOVERNMENT THINKING, RECENTLY PUBLISHED AN EDITORIAL SHARPLY CRITICAL OF OZORIO'S "LUMINOUS OPTIMISM" AND STRONGLY DOUBTFUL THAT GROWTH IN POPULATION COULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY GROWTH IN SERVICES (HEALTH, EDUCATION) WHICH ARE INADEQUATE AT PRESENT POPULATION LEVEL. (ALSO SEE BRASILIA 5746.)

5. IN SAME CONVERSATION, PEDRO MOTTA CALLED ACTION PLAN
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 BRASIL 05830 031226Z

ACCEPTABLE TO BRAZIL IN THAT IT INCORPORATES BASIC ELEMENTS OF BRAZILIAN POSITION, INCLUDING EMPHASIS ON RESEARCH. HE ALSO SAID THERE WOULD BE ARGUMENTS ON SOME DETAILS, GIVING AS AN EXAMPLE THE POINT REGARDING TRAINING FOR POLITICAL LEADERS: IN GOB VIEW, SUCH TRAINING SHOULD BE RESTRICTED TO TECHNICIANS.

6. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT IN ANOTHER CONTEXT, FOREIGN

MINISTER SILVEIRA TOLD AMBASSADOR IN APRIL THAT IN REGARD
TO POPULATION MATTERS, THE BRAZILIAN POSITION WOULD NOT
CHANGE, BUT THE STRIDENT, DOCTRINAIRE, MISSIONARY APPROACH
WOULD CEASE.
CRIMMINS

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